

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Romania

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SUBJECT Reported Visit of Eugen Varga to
Bucharest in December 1949

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1. During the week of 12-13 December 1949, Eugen Varga, Soviet commander, reportedly visited Bucharest for two days. Flying in from Prague after a stop-over of a few hours in Budapest. During his visit to Bucharest, Varga stayed at the Soviet Embassy.
2. Varga reportedly ordered Aurel Vijoli, President of the Bank of the Rumanian Popular Republic, to reduce by two billion lei the quantity of currency in circulation. He likewise conferred with Vasile Malinschi, Minister of Internal Trade, who made available to him the economic and financial reports of appropriate ministries and the State Bank. Before his departure Varga dined with Aurel Vijoli, Vasile Malinschi, and Vasile Luca, Minister of Finance. Varga left Bucharest for Warsaw.
3. After Varga's departure a meeting of the Council of Ministers was convoked to discuss his order to reduce the amount of currency in circulation, since this action would disrupt the economic and financial plans of the Rumanian Communists. The Council of Ministers reportedly decided that a portion of the cost of the Rumanian economic plan must henceforth be borne by the treasury of the Rumanian Workers Party if the program was to be fulfilled.

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